Price of Rifampicin

1235. SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not reduced the prices of formulations based on Rifampicin being used by TB and Leprotic patients despite the fact that DPCO, 1987 was announced in August, 1987 and six months have passed; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of bulk drugs

1236. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of bulk drugs being produced in the country;

(b) what is the total number of bulk drugs for which Government are monitoring the production;

(c) names of the bulk drugs for which Government are not monitoring the production; and

(d) what are the reasons for not monitoring the production and by when Government would start monitoring the production of these drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) About 225 bulk drugs are being produced in the country by the organised sector/ small scale sector companies.

(b) to (d) The production of 87 bulk drugs, which are considered important is being monitored by this Ministry. The names of these drugs are available in the Performance Budget of this Ministry for the year 1987-88, copies of which had been laid on the Table of the House.

Marketing of bulk drugs

1237. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of bulk drugs allowed for marketing in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact the Kelkar Committee has not considered all these drugs for identification for inclusion under Category II of Drugs Price Control Order;

(c) what was the number of drugs along with the name of each which were not considered by the Committee;

(d) whether Government issued any instructions to the Committee in this regard; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) A large number of bulk drugs have been allowed for marketing in the country under the provisions of Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940. Details required are quite volumenous and not available. The time and efforts involved for collecting the details will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

(b) to (e) The Kelkar Committee identified drugs to be included in Category II on the basis of the recent WHO list of essential drugs

and another 166 drugs and the exclusion criteria adopted by the Committee and made its recommendation.

Installed capacity of bulk drugs

1238. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are monitoring the installed capacity of each indigenously produced bulk drug in the country;

(b) if so, what is the installed capacity of each;

(c) whether it is a fact that one of the main criteria on which Government recommended for change in Import Policy from OGL to restricted list is the installed capacity being more than the country's requirement; and

(d) if so, what are the names of the drugs for which recommendation was sent to Chief Controller of Imports and Exports for change of Category on this criteria?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Change in the classification of items for the purposes of imports is done in consideration of various factors including indigenous capability.

(d) The import export policy for 1988—91 is in the process of being formulated by the Commerce Ministry which will take into account recommendations of all concerned.

Prices of ophthalmic medicines

1239. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the *Business Standard*, Calcutta of 10th February, 1988 captioned "Apex Drugs Authority to be set up in March";

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the prices of drugs needed to prevent blindness have gone up by more than 100 per cent after the announcement of Drugs Price Control Order, 1987;

(c) whether it is also a fact that such instances have come to the notice of his Ministry;

(d) if so, what are the names of the medicines along with their earlier price and present price and percentage increase in each case; and

(e) if so, on what grounds the manufacturers increased the prices of such essential medicines without the approval of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Prices of scheduled bulk drugs have been revised based on the recommendations of BICP. Some of the manufacturers have revised the prices of non-scheduled bulk drugs also.

(d) The information is given in the attached Statement (See below) to the extent available.

(e) Manufacturers of non-scheduled bulk drugs can revise the prices under the provisions of DPCO, 1987.